

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 10/693,609 Confirmation No.: 6477  
Applicant(s) : SHORT et al.  
Filed : October 23, 2003  
TC/A.U. : 1637  
Examiner : Babic, Christopher M.  
For : METHODS AND COMPOSITION FOR  
DETECTING TARGETS  
  
Customer : 22896  
No.

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION**

Applicants now respond to the Office Action mailed January 11, 2006 ("Action"). Applicants respectfully request consideration in view of the following remarks and amended claims.

**Amendment to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper, and include a replacement abstract on page 4 of this paper.

**Amendment to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 5 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 18 of this paper.